

Amend the Abstract on page 25 with the following replacement Abstract.

ABSTRACT

The described technique emulates a disk drive on flash memory, and avoids storing allocation data structure on flash memory. A device driver is provided for a flash memory device, and the device driver maintains a linked list of data structures, each corresponding to a flash sector, and each describing the characteristics of data access to the file-system blocks in the said sector, as well as maintaining a cached copy of the data present in that sector. ~~sector caches~~. The described caching algorithm ~~use of a list of sector caches~~ enables one to minimize erases and thus increase flash memory life, as well as speed up write operations to the flash memory device. Heuristics are used to detect the sectors that hold critical meta-data information and give preferential treatment to the corresponding cached sectors. The number of sector caches available to the device driver is configured depending on the memory available in the system.